

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Bernd Barchmann et al.

Application No.: 10/803,174

Confirmation No.: 4131

Filed: March 16, 2006

Art Unit: 2841

For: Nonconducting substrate, forming a strip or
a panel, on which a multiplicity of carrier
elements are formed

Examiner: H. C. Nguyen

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the election requirement, applicant hereby elects Species III, covered by claims 1-13, 18-24, and 30-33, with traverse.

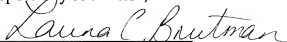
Species IV, which is directed to a stiffening frame such as recited in claims 25-29 and shown in Figure 10, is actually part of Species I, as is described on page 12, lines 14 to 20. Similarly, Species II is just a variation of Species I, as is described on page 14, lines 20-24. In the same manner, Species III is just an extension of Species I, as described on page 16, lines 3 and 4. Applicant is therefore of the opinion that the application only contains one patentable species.

Applicant's election is made without prejudice. As noted by the Examiner, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to not more than a reasonable number of species in addition to the elected species, provided that all claims to each additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.146.

An action on the merits of all the claims and a Notice of Allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Dated: May 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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